

**REPORT ON VISEGRAD STUDY VISIT - 6-8 OCTOBER 2019**

<b>POLAND INTERNSHIP / STUDY VISIT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study visit to North Macedonia was the 2nd official project activity and was conducted within the international Visegrad project „<b>Social Economy Without Borders</b>” between the project partners from Poland, N.Macedonia, Hungary and Czech Republic. Arno and other Macedonian partners organised and hosted the study visit, taking NGO partners to various organisations in Skopje where certain social entrepreneurship activities are taking place</li> </ul>
<b>PERIOD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6-8 Oct 2019</li> </ul>
<b>LOCATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Macedonia, various organisations / locations within Skopje were visited (Esnaf, Solem, Kopce – Red Cross, SE Umbrella, municipality of Suto Orizari, Humanost ); HERA, Zabec, Pedala, AvAv Happy Dog, partner NGOs presented their work during the conference part of the visit</li> </ul>
<b>AIM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The aim of the study visit / internship was to exchange professional experiences and good practices on social entrepreneurship between the 4 partner countries</li> </ul>

PROGRAMME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>STUDY VISIT / INTERNSHIP ACTIVITIES:</u></b></li> <li>• <b>DAY 1 – 6 OCT 2019</b> – the group was ready to meet on the 6th of October 2019 whereby a common working lunch was organised, followed by a visit to a new start-up social enterprise called Creative Macedonia / Esnaf who produce artistic jewellery. They have organised 7 handicraft thematic bazaars with over 300 artisan participants, whereby they include around 70 marginalized people in their workshops.</li> <li>• The director stressed that they have started investing on their own as writing projects was not really productive and did not result in any concrete support. They work with various artists who can present their work together but also include single parents, persons under cancer treatment, Down syndrome etc. Their plan is to open an online platform and a store that will enable selling and marketing the artistic products while their social impact would be economically empower marginalized groups of citizens, as mentioned above. A positive result that came after a series of questions from the group was an offer from the Cultural Centre in Krobia to organise some common workshops in Poland within this or other projects and present their product at a bazaar in Poland, which was warmly accepted by the organisation.</li> <li>• After this visit, the group went for some sightseeing of the city centre and the day was completed with a common dinner in the hotel.</li> <li>• <b>DAY 2 – 7 OCT 2019</b> – the day started with the visit to the NGO Solem, who are on the Visegrad project participants trying to run a SE within own NGO whereby they support integration of the persons with special needs. Solem started out as a creative centre and had started later moving into the direction of working with artisans and the business sector - they explained how they use their economic activities for the empowerment of their target group creatively, therapeutically and financially, offering own products to the business centra. Some of the centre's clients had the opportunity of earning their salaries via such activities – their brand is called handicraftsforyou and they produce small office and handy supplies and gadgets (telephone holders, business card holders, pencils etc.).</li> <li>• Solem described several challenges, one of them being making a switch from NGO making profit / developing business, or how to market their products (i.e. low pricing of products etc.), having in mind big companies They had other colleagues assisting them in</li> </ul>
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<p><b>LESSONS LEARNT</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Lessons learnt / conclusions:</u></b></li> <li>• Explore the potential of cooperating with the municipality of Suto Orizari on the topic of Roma integration issues; see how to invite the mayor for a conference next week in Poland on SE</li> <li>• Explore the possibility of cooperation on the seniors' integration project (Siec initiative to connect the 3rd age universities from N.Macedonia and Poland);continue exploring the possibility with the colleagues from Poland (Krobia municipality)</li> <li>• Explore the possibility of cooperation between Solem and Piaski workshops for disabled persons / cultural centre in Krobia</li> <li>• Explore the possibility of cooperation between the N.Macedonian NGOs who might apply together for a SE project in the future and continue working on the ideas of a follow-up for a new Visegrad project</li> </ul>
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**Program of internship/study visit and seminar in North Macedonia for Partners from Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary within the Visegrad Fund:**

Study visits” Social Economy without borders: creating opportunities “  
Date: 07.10.2019, Skopje

**DRAFT AGENDA**

TIME	ACTIVITY	COMMENT
07:30- 08:40	Breakfast	
08:40-09:00	Meetup in front of hotel/taxi to Solem	
09:00-10:30	<b>Study visit in SOLEM</b>	Presentation of their work+ Short workshop on producing handcrafts with SOLEM clients
10:30-11:00	Taxi to Kopce	
11:00-12:00	<b>Study Visit in Kopce</b>	Presentation of their work and Red Cross other activities with vulnerable target groups
12:00-12:15	Walk to Umbrella Restaurant	
12:15-13:30	<b>Lunch at Umbrella Restaurant</b>	TBD / Presentation of their work
13:30-14:00	Taxi to Municipality Shuto Orizari	
14:00-15:30	<b>Meeting with Mayor in Municipality Shuto Orizari</b>	Presentation of their work
15:30-15:45	Taxi to Kucheviska Bara	
15:45-17:00	<b>Study Visit in Humanost</b>	Presentation of their work
17:00- 17:20	Taxi to Hotel/	
18:00- 19:00	Free time	
19:00-20:30	Dinner	

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>PRESENTERS/PANELISTS</b>
<b>Conference “Social Economy without Borders: cooperation opportunities “ TIME</b>		
09:00-09:30	Registration	
09:30-10:00	<b>Welcoming words Presentation of the Polish system on SE</b>	Barbara Sadowska Barka Foundation (Poland)
10:00-11:00	<b>Presentation of the role of local municipalities in empowering of SE/public procurement; Good practices from Poland, Czech Republic and N. Macedonia</b>	1. Sebastian Czwojda Deputy Mayor of Subregion Gostyn (Poland) 2. Anna Krzyzostaniak, Welfare Office Krobia (Poland) 3. Premysl Kramerius, the Salvation Army (Czech Republic) 4. Municipality Representative (N.Macedonia)
11:00-11:30	<b>Reflections from the Study Visit in Poland</b>	Irina Janevska- ARNO; Iskra Roso- Solem; Toni Stankovski- Ljubeznost; Gordana Rodic- SIEC; Dimitar Ilchev-Misla
11:30-12:00	Coffee Break	
12:00-13:00	<b>Short Presentations/ Showroom: The landscape of Macedonian Social Enterprises</b>	Izbor/Bagel Shop, Ecologic ,H.E.R.A., Pedala, Freshys ,AvAv, AHP - Prilep
13:00-14:30	<b>Panel Discussion: Creating Opportunities for Development of SE: legislation, support structures, financing system, public procurement, etc. Moderator: Nikica Kusinikova</b>	1. Dushan Tomsic (MLSP) 2. Klimentina Ilijevski (Public) 3. Gjrogji Kushevski (CEED Hub) 4. Michal Listwon (Deputy Mayor of Krobia/PL) 5. Gerard Misiaczyk (Director of Workshop for Disabled of Piaski/ PL)
14.30- 15.00	<b>Discussion Closure</b>	All participants Barbara Sadowska
15:00-16:00		Cocktail /Networking

Note: The working language of the conference is Macedonian. Whispering translation will be provided to our project partners, which can be used by other guests. Thank you for the understanding



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